GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1808
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Solid Waste Management
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the implementation of Solid Waste Management policy in the country;
(b) whether the Government proposes to frame new rules for strict compliance of waste management including solid waste, plastic waste, hazardous waste, bio-medical waste and construction and demolition waste and if so, the details thereof; and
(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for effective implementation of Solid Waste Management policy in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)
(a) As per available information, the total Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) generation in the country is 1,43,449 tons per day (tpd), out of which 1,17,644 tpd is collected, and 32,871 tpd is treated. As per the Municipal Solid Waste (Management and Handling) (MSW) Rules, 2000, Municipal authorities are the implementing agencies, and are responsible for development of infrastructure for collection, segregation, transportation, processing and disposal of the waste within their jurisdictions. For environmentally sound management of solid waste including for resource recovery,553 compost &vermi-compost plants, 56 bio-methanation plants, 22 refuse derived fuel plants and 13 Waste to Energy (W to E) plants have been set up in the country.
(b) & (c) Ministry has undertaken a comprehensive review of all the waste management rules including for solid waste, plastic waste, hazardous waste, bio-medical waste and electronic waste to make them more effective. Draft revised rules were published during May-June, 2015 inviting public objections and suggestions. Extensive stakeholder consultations were held. The suggestions and objections received on these draft rules have been examined by the separate Working Groups constituted for each rule. Based on the recommendations of the Working Groups, the rules have been finalized.
The draft Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2015 aim to increase minimum thickness of plastic carry bags from 40 to 50 microns, stipulate minimum thickness of 50 micron forplastic sheets, to makeproducers and generators responsible to put in place collection systemsfor plastic waste by involving Producers/ Brand owners through Extended Producers Responsibility; to introduce collection of plastic waste management fee through pre-registration of the producers and importers of plastic carry bags / multilayered packaging and vendors; to strengthen the role of the local governments, industrial units and others in effective management of plastic waste.
Draft Solid Waste Management Rules, 2015 aim to expand the jurisdiction of applicability; emphasize on gainful utilization of wastes; emphasis zero or minimum landfilling, enable local bodies to collect 'User Fee' and levy 'Spot Fine', separate regime of disposal of diapers and sanitary napkins, for disposal of Construction & Demolition wastes; promotion of city compost and their marketing; enable policy formulation for Waste to Energy; integration of ragpickers, kabadiwallas and self-help groups etc.in waste collection system. The Rules also delineate the role of stakeholders more explicitly including the role of waste generators, industries, waste recyclers, Central and State regulatory agencies.
To ensure better implementation of management of hazardous waste, Ministry had published draft Hazardous and Other Waste (Management & Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2015 with an aim to simplify and decentralize the management and import procedures of the specified wastes. Under the proposed rules, the user industry intending to use hazardous waste for recycling, recovery or for utilization either through domestic procurement or through import will be required to take only permission. Import of various categories of waste such as metal scrap and used electrical and electronic equipment for re-use purpose are being exempted from the need of taking permission from the Ministry by including them in separate Schedule III D. The proposed amendment prohibits the import of household wastes, solid plastic waste, waste electronic assembly scraps, used tyres for direct reuse, critical care medical equipment, and biomedical waste.
To ensure better implementation of management of electronic waste, Ministry has published draft e-Waste (Management) Rules, 2015 which include expanding producer's responsibility under Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), setting up of Producer Responsibility Organizations, and e-waste Exchange, assigning specific responsibility to bulk consumers of electronic products for safe disposal, providing for economic incentives for collection of electronic waste, and other measures to include dedicated responsibility of electronic and electrical product producers for collection and channelizing of electronic waste. Simplification in permission process for dismantling and recycling through one system of authorization instead of both registration and authorisation has been proposed.
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